ESSP Conference Step II
Safety and Mission Assurance

November 15, 2001

Crystal City, VA

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Protecting the Public, Astronauts and Pilots, the NASA Workforce, and High-Value Equipment and Property

The NASA Safety Hierarchy:

- First, safety for the public. We absolutely must protect the public from harm
- Second, safety for astronauts and pilots, because they expose themselves to risk in high hazard flight regimes
- Third, safety for NASA workforce, because we owe it to our NASA workforce to provide them with a safe and healthful workplace
- Fourth, safety for high-value equipment and property, because we are stewards of the public's trust. In-briefing to SMA management

(NASA FAR Supplement Procurement Notice 97-61, April 5, 2001)

Safety Message

- Goal of zero injuries in the workplace. No activities at NASA are important enough to significantly compromise your safety or the safety of the public
- Your awareness in recognizing and correcting hazards and unsafe behaviors is the most effective deterrent
- Mishaps investigation often show, those involved either knew or suspected something was not quite right
- Trust your experience, check and obtain clarification
- Absolute worst thing would be that a future mishap investigation found that people suspected the problem, but remain silent

Risk Management

NASA FAR 1807.104 General procedures.

(a) The acquisition planning team shall obtain input from the center offices responsible for matters of safety and mission assurance, occupational health, environmental protection, information technology, export control, and security. Their presence on the team shall help to ensure that all NASA acquisitions are structured in accordance with NASA safety, occupational health, environmental, export control, and security policy. As part of this process, the team shall recommend any appropriate solicitation or contract requirements for implementation of safety, occupational health, environmental, information technology, export control, and security concerns. (See NPG 8715.3, NASA Safety Manual; NPG 7120.5, NASA Program and Project Management Processes and Requirements; NPG 2810.1, Security of Information Technology, and NPG 1620.1, Security Procedures and Guidelines, all available at www.nodis.hq.nasa.gov).

Risk Management

NASA FAR Key Statement of Risk:

(7) Discuss project/program risks (see NPG 7120.5, NASA Program and Project Management Processes and Requirements). In addition to technical, schedule, and cost risks, the discussion shall include such considerations as: safety and security (including personnel, information technology, and facilities/property); the need to involve foreign sources (contractor and/or governmental), and risks of unauthorized technology transfer(see NPG 2190, NASA Export Control Program); and resource risk, including the necessary level and expertise of NASA personnel resources available to manage the project/program. For each area of risk identified, the discussion shall include a quantification of the relative magnitude (e.g., high, medium, low) together with the specific actions taken to structure the acquisition approach to manage the risks throughout the acquisition process.